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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, March 16, 1992

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Minutes of the
Fort Hays State University
Faculty Senate
March 16, 1992

President Watt called the meeting of the Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate to order on March 16, 1992, at 3:40 p.m. in the Trails Room of the Memorial Union.

The following members were present: Dr. Robert Stephenson, Dr. Claire Matthews (for Dr. Fred Britten), Dr. Eugene Fleharty (for Dr. Michael Madden), Ms. Martha Holmes, Dr. Dale McKemey, Mrs. Joan Rumpel, Mrs. Sharon Barton, Dr. Max Rumpel, Dr. Serjit Kaur-Kasior, Dr. Stephen Shapiro, Dr. Robert Jennings, Dr. John Durham, Dr. Tom Johanson (for Dr. Carl Parker), Dr. Paul Gatschet, Dr. Cliff Edwards (for Dr. Carl Singleton), Mr. Dwayne Winterlin, Dr. Gary L. Millhollen, Dr. John Zody, Dr. Tom Kerns, Dr. Helmut Schmeller, Mr. Glen McNeil, Mr. Jerry Wilson, Dr. Charles Votaw, Dr. Mohammad Riaz, Dr. Lewis Miller, Dr. Martin Shapiro, Ms. Dianna Koerner, Ms. Cindie Streck (for Dr. Mary Hassett), Dr. Richard Huguen, Dr. Richard Heil, Dr. Robert Markley, Dr. Phyllis Tiffany, and Dr. Nevell Razak.

Members absent were Dr. Bill Daley, Dr. Michael Slattery, Dr. Fred Britten, Dr. Michael Madden, Mr. Michael Jilg, Dr. Carl Parker, Dr. Carl Singleton, Mr. Herb Zook, Dr. Mary Hassett, Dr. Maurice Witten, and Dr. Mike Rittig.

Also present were Dr. Larry Gould, several other faculty members, and a representative of the Leader.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Watt called the members' attention to the minutes of the March 2, 1992 Faculty Senate meeting and the revised model program and indicated that the March 2 minutes would be approved at the next regular senate meeting on April 7, 1992.

President Watt announced the next Executive Committee meeting for March 24, 1992, at 3:30 pm in the Frontier Room of the Memorial Union. He also said that the Executive Committee would meet with Regents counsel, Judith Siminoe, on April 7.

A student reporter for the Leader, referring to Robert's Rules, had questioned the voting procedures of the Senate. President Watt indicated that the Senate's Bylaws require a majority vote for passing all Senate motions except for changes to the Bylaws, which requires a two-thirds vote. Hence, all votes on the Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) proposal are legal.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made to bring the CRC report back before the Senate for discussion. The motion was seconded and approved by the Senate.

Dr. Schmeller moved that the Senate amended the CRC report to bring the CRC proposal into agreement with current practice, p. 45 of the current university catalog: i.e., that a student may not take courses in the student's major department for fulfillment of the distribution requirements in section II.B. of the CRC model program. The CRC did not recommend this restriction because in the original proposal students were required to take one course in three different areas achieving desired breadth; under the revised program a student may take two courses in one area, limiting breadth, and thus it is desirable to eliminate the major area as a choice; the motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Stephenson moved that the Senate eliminate the International Studies section, II.A., and move the courses into the respective divisions of distribution section, thus reducing the total hours of the model program to 49 hours. His rationale was that this would reduce the model program by 6 hours and that this would make it easier for transfer students. Ms. Koerner seconded. Dr. Rumpel disagreed with putting World Geography in the Natural Science section since the course as described is primarily a cultural geography course. Dr. Markley stated that this motion would guarantee that the students had no common core courses at all. Dr. Stephenson explained that he had meant that students would still be required to take those courses, but those courses would replace other courses in the divisions. Dr. Edwards pointed out that the original proposal had already reduced the hours in the Humanities, Mathematics/Natural Sciences, and Social/Behavioral Sciences divisions from 12 hours to 9 hours; the result of Dr. Stephenson's motion would be a reduction of the hours in liberal arts. Dr. Schmeller reminded the Senate that such a change opposed national trends and Dr. Hammond's "internationalizing" focus. Dr. Stephenson countered that three courses do not make a student "internationalized." Dr. Schmeller agreed, but noted that this motion reduced the probability of "internationalizing" the students. The motion failed: 14 for, 19 against, and 0 abstentions.

Dr. Stephenson proposed the motion to reduce the Humanities division of section II.B. to 6 hours required, Mathematics/Natural Sciences to 7 hours, and Social/Behavioral Sciences to 6 hours, leaving the International Studies section, II.A., intact and reducing the total program to 49 hours. Ms. Koerner seconded. Dr. Miller asked if that meant a student could take the 6 hours in one area; Dr. Stephenson replied that was correct unless someone amended that possibility. Dr. Durham pointed out that expansion of knowledge was an ongoing problem; general education programs could continue to increase in order to

keep up with this knowledge explosion. Dr. Edwards spoke for the quality of the program; he pointed out that the business community recognizes the importance of the liberal arts. He believed that a 55-hour program was a reasonable program, that by adopting it FHSU would be sending out a statement about quality education, and that statement would bring students here. Dr. Markley remarked that a good general education program creates independent thinkers. The motion failed: 12 for, 22 against, 0 abstentions.

Dr. Markley called the original motion, Motion II: to adopt the specific curriculum proposals, (3.1.1) Outline of the Proposed Program of the CRC Report as amended by the Faculty Senate and with the inclusion of the statement on p. 45 of the current university catalog concerning students not taking major courses for the distribution. The question was asked if a student with an Associate of Arts degree from a community college would be required to take the Wellness course; it was pointed out that a student might sidestep this course by taking varsity athletics at a community college and that to substitute varsity athletes for Wellness defeated the purpose for adopting Wellness. Dr. Heil moved to table Motion II temporarily in order to adopt a "spirit-of-the-Senate" resolution, requesting the administration to seek a resolution of this issue with the community colleges. Dr. Schmeller seconded. The motion to table Motion II passed on a majority voice vote. Dr. Heil moved to send a resolution to the administration to reconcile the Articulation Agreement with the Foundation Studies segment of the Model Program to assure that philosophies are consistent. The vote was unanimous in favor of the resolution. The motion to adopt Motion II as amended was brought back to the floor. The motion passed: 27 for, 6 against, 0 abstentions.

Dr. Markley moved to adopt the general recommendations on pp. 26-27 of the CRC report, which includes the creation of a general education committee and outline of its duties. Ms. Koerner asked if Dr. Gould, Dean of Arts & Sciences, will seek the input of the Senate in the membership of the committee. Dr. Gould responded that he would seek the Senate's advice. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Gould pointed out that the CRC report specified that the president of the university has final approval of the program; Dr. Gould reminded the Senate that the Provost has final approval at present, and he asked if the Senate wished to change former procedures. Dr. Markley noted that the past presidents delegated their authority in this area to the Provost (or Vice-President for Academic Affairs) and that Dr. Hammond could do the same.

Dr. Heil moved that the Senate be adjourned. Dr. Miller seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Holmes, Secretary
Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate

REVIEW OF ACTIONS ON CRC REPORT
March 16, 1992

Amendment BB to Motion II: Passed - Unanimous
To restrict a student from taking courses in the major department in fulfillment of the distribution requirements in Section II.B.

Amendment CC to Motion II: Failed - 14 for
To eliminate the International Studies section (II.A.), to move the courses in II.A. to the respective divisions of II.B., and to require students to take 2 of 3 courses in II.B. 19 against
0 abstentions

Amendment DD to Motion II: Failed - 12 for
To reduce the Humanities division to 6 hours, the Mathematics/Natural Sciences division to 7 hours, and the Social/Behavioral Sciences division to 6 hours in section II.B. 22 against
0 abstentions

Motion II: Passed - 27 for
To adopt the specific curriculum proposals, (3.1.1.) Outline of the Proposed Program of the CRC Report, as amended by Faculty Senate 6 against
0 abstentions